

In the claims:

1. (Currently amended): An electric toothbrush comprising:

- (a) a handle, a head, and a neck extending between said handle and said head, said handle having a hollow interior region, ~~said head having bristles disposed thereon,~~ and said electric toothbrush having a longitudinal axis;
- (b) a movable bristle holder disposed on said head, said movable bristle holder having a plurality of movable bristles disposed thereon, said movable bristle holder reciprocates along said longitudinal axis of said toothbrush;
- (c) a motor disposed in said hollow interior region, wherein said motor is operatively connected to said movable bristle holder by a drive shaft; and
- (d) one or more bristles disposed in a static portion of said head, wherein motion of said drive shaft results in motion of said bristles disposed on said static portion of said head.

2. (Currently amended): The electric toothbrush of ~~Claim~~claim 1, wherein said movable bristle holder contacts at least a portion of said one or more bristles disposed on said static portion of said head.

3. (Canceled).

4. (Currently amended): The electric toothbrush of ~~Claim 3~~ claim 1, wherein said movable bristle holder reciprocates from about 750 to about 2000 strokes cycles per minute.
5. (Currently amended): The electric toothbrush of ~~Claim~~ claim 1, ~~wherein said bristles disposed on said head comprise bristles that are~~ further comprising at least one bristle disposed in said static portion of said head ~~and do~~ which does not undergo motion as a result of motion of said drive shaft, ~~bristles that are disposed in said static portion of said head and do~~ undergo motion as a result of motion of said drive shaft, and bristles disposed on said movable bristle holder.
6. (Currently amended): The electric toothbrush of ~~Claim~~ claim 5, wherein each of said bristles on said movable bristle holder and on said static portion of said head is comprised of further ~~comprise~~ a single elastomeric cylinder.
7. (Currently amended): The electric toothbrush of ~~Claim~~ claim 1, wherein said bristles disposed on said static portion *of* said head are displaced in a direction substantially parallel to said longitudinal axis of the toothbrush.
8. (Currently amended): The electric toothbrush of ~~Claim~~ claim 1, wherein said bristles disposed on said static portion of said head are displaced in a direction substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the toothbrush.

9. (Currently amended): The electric toothbrush of ~~Claim~~claim 1, wherein said bristles disposed on said static portion of said head are displaced at an angle of from about 5 degrees to about 45 degrees as a result of motion of said drive shaft.
10. (Currently amended): The electric toothbrush of ~~Claim~~claim 1, wherein said movable bristle holder has a stroke length of from about 0.1 mm to about 10mm.
11. (Currently amended): The electric toothbrush of ~~Claim~~claim 1, wherein a lower about 50% of the bristle length is contacted by the movable bristle holder.
12. (Currently amended): The electric toothbrush of ~~Claim~~claim 11, wherein a lower about 30% of the bristle length is contacted by the movable bristle holder.
13. (Currently amended): The electric toothbrush of ~~Claim~~claim 1, wherein ~~said bristle~~ passes at least one of said bristles disposed on said static portion of said head passes through said static portion of said toothbrush with each such bristle terminating in a bristle bulb, wherein said bristle bulb is contacted by said movable bristle holder operatively connected to said drive shaft resulting in motion of the length of the bristle proximal to the static portion of the head of the toothbrush.
14. (Currently amended): The electric toothbrush of ~~Claim~~claim 1, wherein said movable bristle holder further comprises at least one ~~or more protuberances~~protuberance.
15. (Currently amended): The electric toothbrush of ~~Claim~~claim 1, wherein said movable bristle holder comprises at least one ~~or more protuberances~~protuberance selected from the group

consisting of at least one leading edge protuberance, at least one trailing edge protuberance, at least one side edge protuberance, or protuberance and any combination thereof.

16. (Currently amended): The electric toothbrush of ~~Claim 15~~ claim 14, wherein said ~~protuberances are~~ at least one protuberance is on a leading edge of said movable bristle holder.

17. (Currently amended): An electric toothbrush comprising:

- (a) a handle, a head, and a neck extending between said handle and said head, said handle having a hollow interior region, ~~said head having bristles disposed thereon,~~ and said electric toothbrush having a longitudinal axis;
- (b) a movable bristle holder disposed on said head, said movable bristle holder having a plurality of movable bristles disposed thereon, said movable bristle holder reciprocates along said longitudinal axis of said toothbrush;
- (c) a motor disposed in said hollow interior region and operatively connected to said movable bristle holder to move said movable bristle holder; and
- (d) one or more bristles disposed in a static portion of said head, wherein movement of said movable bristle holder results in motion of at least a portion of said one or more bristles disposed on said static portion of said head.

18. (Currently amended): The electric toothbrush of ~~Claim~~claim 17, wherein contact occurs between said movable bristle holder and said at least a portion of said one or more bristles disposed on said static portion of said head.

19. (Currently amended): An electric toothbrush comprising:

- (a) a handle, a head, and a neck extending between said handle and said head, said handle having a hollow interior region, ~~said head having bristles disposed thereon,~~ and said electric toothbrush having a longitudinal axis;
- (b) a movable bristle holder disposed on said head, said movable bristle holder having a plurality of movable bristles disposed thereon, said movable bristle holder includes one or more protuberances and reciprocates along said longitudinal axis of said toothbrush;
- (c) a motor disposed in said hollow interior region and operatively connected to said movable bristle holder to move said movable bristle holder, ~~wherein said movable bristle holder comprises one or more protuberances;~~ and
- (d) one or more bristles disposed in a static portion of said head, wherein movement of said movable bristle holder comprising said one or more protuberances moves at least a portion of said bristles disposed on said static portion of said head.

20. (Canceled).

21. (Currently amended): The electric toothbrush of ~~Claim 20~~claim 19, wherein said movable bristle holder reciprocates from about 750 to about 2000 strokes cycles per minute.

22. (Currently amended): The electric toothbrush of ~~Claim~~claim 19, wherein said one or more protuberances selected from the group consisting of leading edge protuberances, trailing edge protuberances, side edge protuberances~~[[, or]]~~and any combination thereof.

23. (Currently amended): The electric toothbrush of ~~Claim~~claim 19, wherein said ~~movable bristle holder comprises~~ one or more protuberances are on a leading edge of said movable bristle holder.

24. (Currently amended): The electric toothbrush of ~~Claim~~claim 19, wherein said movable bristle holder comprises a plurality of protuberances.

25. (Currently amended): The electric toothbrush of ~~Claim~~claim 19, wherein contact occurs between said one or more protuberances and said at least a portion of said one or more bristles disposed on said static portion of said head during movement of said movable bristle holder.

26. (Currently amended): The electric toothbrush of ~~Claim~~claim 25, wherein said one or more protuberances contact said bristles disposed on said static portion of said head within the lower about 50% of the bristle length.

27. (Currently amended): The electric toothbrush of ~~Claim~~claim 19, wherein said bristle passes through said static portion of said toothbrush terminating in a bristle bulb, wherein said bristle bulb is contacted by said movable bristle holder resulting in motion of the proximal length of the bristle.

28. (New): The electric toothbrush of claim 17, wherein said movable bristle holder reciprocates from about 750 to about 2000 strokes cycles per minute.
29. (New): The electric toothbrush of claim 17, wherein each of said bristles on said movable bristle holder and on said static portion of said head is comprised of a single elastomeric cylinder.
30. (New): The electric toothbrush of claim 17, wherein said bristles disposed on said static portion of said head are displaced in a direction substantially parallel to said longitudinal axis of the toothbrush.
31. (New): The electric toothbrush of claim 17, wherein the movement of said movable bristle holder results in the motion of said portion of said bristles disposed on said static portion of said head in a direction substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the toothbrush.
32. (New): The electric toothbrush of claim 17, wherein the movement of said movable bristle holder results in the motion of said portion of said bristles disposed on said static portion of said head through an angle of from about 5 degrees to about 45 degrees as a result of motion of said drive shaft.
33. (New): The electric toothbrush of claim 17, wherein said movable bristle holder has a stroke length of from about 0.1 mm to about 10mm.
34. (New): The electric toothbrush of claim 17, wherein a lower about 50% of the bristle length is contacted by the movable bristle holder.

35. (New): The electric toothbrush of claim 34, wherein a lower about 30% of the bristle length is contacted by the movable bristle holder.

36. (New): An electric toothbrush comprising:

- (a) a handle, a head, and a neck extending between said handle and said head, said handle having a hollow interior region, and said electric toothbrush having a longitudinal axis;
- (b) a movable bristle holder disposed on said head, said movable bristle holder having a plurality of movable bristles disposed thereon;
- (c) a motor disposed in said hollow interior region, wherein said motor is operatively connected to said movable bristle holder by a drive shaft; and
- (d) one or more bristles disposed in a static portion of said head, at least one of said bristles disposed on said static portion of said head pass through said static portion of said toothbrush with each such bristle terminating in a bristle bulb, wherein said bristle bulb is contacted by said movable bristle holder operatively connected to said drive shaft so motion of said drive shaft results in motion of the length of the bristle proximal to the static portion of the head of the toothbrush.

37. (New): The electric toothbrush of claim 36, wherein said movable bristle holder reciprocates from about 750 to about 2000 strokes cycles per minute.



38. (New): The electric toothbrush of claim 36, further comprising at least one bristle disposed in said static portion of said head which does not undergo motion as a result of motion of said drive shaft.

39. (New): The electric toothbrush of claim 36, wherein each of said bristles on said movable bristle holder and on said static portion of said head which does not undergo motion as a result of motion of said drive shaft comprises a single elastomeric cylinder.

40. (New): The electric toothbrush of claim 36, wherein said movable bristle holder has a stroke length of from about 0.1 mm to about 10mm.

41. (New): An electric toothbrush comprising:

- (a) a handle, a head, and a neck extending between said handle and said head, said handle having a hollow interior region, and said electric toothbrush having a longitudinal axis;
- (b) a movable bristle holder disposed on said head, said movable bristle holder having a plurality of movable bristles disposed thereon, said movable bristle holder includes a plurality of protuberances;
- (c) a motor disposed in said hollow interior region and operatively connected to said movable bristle holder to move said movable bristle holder; and
- (d) one or more bristles disposed in a static portion of said head, wherein movement of said movable bristle holder comprising said plurality of protuberances moves at least a portion of said bristles disposed on said static portion of said head.

42. (New): The electric toothbrush of claim 41, wherein said movable bristle holder reciprocates from about 750 to about 2000 strokes cycles per minute.
43. (New): The electric toothbrush of claim 41, wherein said plurality of protuberances are selected from the group consisting of leading edge protuberances, trailing edge protuberances, side edge protuberances and any combination thereof.
44. (New): The electric toothbrush of claim 41, wherein said plurality of protuberances are on a leading edge of said movable bristle holder.
45. (New): The electric toothbrush of claim 41, wherein contact occurs between said one or more protuberances and said at least a portion of said one or more bristles disposed on said static portion of said head during movement of said movable bristle holder.
46. (New): The electric toothbrush of claim 45, wherein said one or more protuberances contact said bristles disposed on said static portion of said head within the lower about 50% of the bristle length.
47. (New): The electric toothbrush of claim 41, wherein each of said bristles on said movable bristle holder and said static portion of said head is comprised of a single elastomeric cylinder.
48. (New): The electric toothbrush of claim 41, wherein said bristles disposed on said static portion of said head are displaced in a direction substantially parallel to said longitudinal axis of the toothbrush.

49. (New): The electric toothbrush of claim 41, wherein said bristles disposed on said static portion of said head are displaced in a direction substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the toothbrush.

50. (New): The electric toothbrush of claim 41, wherein said bristles disposed on said static portion of said head are displaced at an angle of from about 5 degrees to about 45 degrees as a result of motion of said drive shaft.

51. (New): An electric toothbrush comprising:

- (a) a handle, a head, and a neck extending between said handle and said head, said handle having a hollow interior region, and said electric toothbrush having a longitudinal axis;
- (b) a movable bristle holder disposed on said head, said movable bristle holder having a plurality of movable bristles disposed thereon, said movable bristle holder reciprocates along said longitudinal axis of said toothbrush;
- (c) a motor disposed in said hollow interior region and operatively connected to said movable bristle holder to move said movable bristle holder; and
- (d) one or more bristles disposed in a static portion of said head, wherein at least a portion of said bristles disposed on said static portion of said head pass through said static portion of said toothbrush with each such bristle terminating in a bristle

bulb, wherein said bristle bulb is contacted by said movable bristle holder so motion of said movable bristle holder results in motion of the length of the bristle proximal to the static portion of the head of the toothbrush.

52. (New): The electric toothbrush of claim 51, wherein said movable bristle holder reciprocates along said longitudinal axis of said toothbrush.

53. (New): The electric toothbrush of claim 52, wherein said movable bristle holder reciprocates from about 750 to about 2000 strokes cycles per minute.

54. (New): The electric toothbrush of claim 51, wherein some said bristles disposed on said static portion of said head comprise bristles that are disposed in said static portion of said head and do not undergo motion as a result of motion of said movable bristle holder.

55. (New): The electric toothbrush of claim 51, wherein each of said bristles on said movable bristle holder and on said static portion of said head which does not undergo motion as a result of motion of said movable bristle holder is comprised of a single elastomeric cylinder.

56. (New): The electric toothbrush of claim 51, wherein said movable bristle holder has a stroke length of from about 0.1mm to about 10mm.